

"Clean copy" of amended claims:

B<sup>1</sup>  
1. (Twice Amended) A voltage level translator for operating an operational amplifier integrated circuit designed for operation with a single ended power supply, to operate with a split level power supply having a center tapped ground, comprising:

first voltage level translating means for connecting a first polarity power supply terminal of the operational amplifier integrated circuit to a first polarity of the power supply,

Sub C<sub>1</sub>  
10 second voltage level translating means for connecting a second polarity power supply terminal of the operational amplifier integrated circuit to a second polarity of the split level power supply,

means for connecting a signal input terminal of the operational amplifier to a center tapped ground of the split level power supply and:

15 wherein another signal input terminal of the operational amplifier is coupled to a signal source referenced to ground without any DC isolation capacitors connected in series with the amplifier and the output terminal of the operational amplifier is coupled to a signal load referenced to ground without any DC isolation capacitors connected in series with the amplifier.  
20

B<sup>2</sup>  
6. (Twice Amended) A voltage level translator for operating an operational amplifier integrated circuit designed for operation with a single ended power supply, to operate with a split level power supply having a center tapped ground, comprising:

Sub C<sub>1</sub>  
25 first voltage level translating means for connecting a first polarity power supply terminal of the operational amplifier integrated circuit to a first polarity of the power supply,

second voltage level translating means for connecting a second polarity power supply terminal of the operational amplifier integrated circuit to a second polarity of the split level power supply, and

means for connecting a signal input terminal of the operational amplifier to a center tapped ground of the split level power supply.

wherein the split level power supply having a center tapped ground also provides power to other circuits performing other functions and:

wherein the amplifier includes an output load comprising an earphone and the other circuits performing other functions is a DVD player. 1.

ADD THE FOLLOWING NEW CLAIMS 8, 9 and 10:

B3  
5 8. (Newly Added) The voltage level translator of Claim 1,  
wherein:  
said operational amplifier has a predetermined maximum voltage  
rating and said split level power supply having a voltage greater than  
said maximum voltage rating; and

10 said first voltage level translating means and said second voltage  
level translation means each comprise a respective Zener diode  
having respective Zener voltages selected to enable said integrated  
circuit to operate within said maximum voltage rating when powered by  
said split level power supply.

15 9. (Newly Added) The voltage level translator of Claim 6,  
wherein:

said operational amplifier has a predetermined maximum voltage  
rating and said split level power supply having a voltage greater than  
said maximum voltage rating; and

20 said first voltage level translating means and said second voltage  
level translation means each comprise a respective Zener diode  
having respective Zener voltages selected to enable said integrated  
circuit to operate within said maximum voltage rating when powered by  
said split level power supply.

10. (Newly Added) A voltage level translator for operating an operational integrated circuit designed for operation with a single ended power supply, to operate with a split level power supply having a center tapped ground, comprising:

a first voltage level translating means for connecting a first polarity power supply terminal of the operational amplifier integrated circuit to a first polarity of the split level power supply;

a second voltage level translating means for connecting a second polarity power supply terminal of the operational amplifier integrated circuit to a first polarity of the split level power supply;

said operational amplifier has a predetermined maximum voltage rating and said split level power supply having a voltage greater than said maximum voltage rating; and

said first voltage level translating means and said second voltage level translation means each comprise a respective Zener diode having respective Zener voltages selected to enable said integrated circuit to operate within said maximum voltage rating when powered by said split level power supply.